

# Scholars Talk Writing: Steven Pinker

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## *The Chronicle of Higher Education:*

Steven Pinker is about as close as you can come to being an academic celebrity. The Harvard professor of psychology has written seven books for a general readership in addition to his scholarly work, which is wide-ranging. Pinker frequently writes about language for *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Time*, and *The Atlantic*, and also tackles subjects such as education, morality, politics, bioethics, and violence.

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Since many people are under the misconception that you have to write badly in academia to be taken seriously, I'll just mention some renowned scholars in my own field whom I read as an undergraduate and who were sparkling prose stylists.

My adviser Roger Brown was a great social psychologist, the founder of the modern study of language acquisition in children, and the author of the delightful *Words and Things: An Introduction to Language and Social Psychology*.

Read the whole story: [\*The Chronicle of Higher Education\*](#)